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United States Patent [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,589,855****Blumstein et al.**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 31, 1996**[54] **VISUALLY IMPAIRED CUSTOMER
ACTIVATED TERMINAL METHOD AND
SYSTEM**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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A method and system for entering numerical information in a manner that can be easily used by visually impaired individuals are disclosed. Using a touch screen display, for each digit of a multidigit number a first location on the screen is touched a number of times equal to the digit followed by touching a second location. Once all the digits have been entered, a third location is touched. This method allows for dividing the touch screen display into a small number of large area touch active regions, such as quadrants, thus reducing the accuracy required to enter a value since the large area quadrants are easily referenced to the screen boundaries. Further, audible cues are used to prompt the user as well as provide feedback.

23 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets